

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

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### Situation Report

#### Severe Storms

December 18, 2002

During the evening of December 17, 2002, a stationary front stalled over Missouri with heavily laden moist air being pushed up from the Gulf of Mexico. The inordinate higher temperatures made for the potential for damaging storm cells to be formed. The cold front as it moved through Missouri developed a line of storms stretching from Southwest Missouri to Northeast Missouri with high winds, heavy rains and large storm cells transitioning along the front as it moved eastward.

The State Emergency Management Agency was notified through its Duty Officer System and SEMA continues to collect and collate damage reports from their Area Coordinators.

#### **County/City Reports:**

##### **Barton County:**

Reports one fatality (confirmed) and two serious injuries.  
Six homes along the Jasper/Barton County line destroyed/damaged  
One mobile home destroyed (which was the fatality)  
Five homes damaged, but will do damage assessment in daylight.  
Power lines down throughout the county also blocking roads.  
American Red Cross and Salvation Army have been set up at Memorial Hall in Lamar.

##### **Lawrence County**

Reports one fatality (confirmed) and five serious and ten minor injuries.  
Ten mobile homes and three homes were possibly destroyed.  
Power lines are out and have closed roads due to obstructions.  
American Red Cross is on scene and has established a shelter at a local hotel in Mount Vernon.  
Missouri Rehabilitation Center transported all the displaced people to the hotel.

##### **Polk County**

Reports one injury, eleven homes damaged, one mobile home destroyed.  
Power is out at Flemington, Missouri and parts of Humansville.  
Several rural areas are without power  
Five families are seeking shelter.  
American Red Cross and Salvation Army have been activated.

**Actions Taken**

SEMA has dispatched Volunteer Coordinator, Dante Gliniecki to assist American Red Cross and Salvation Army activities. Disaster Mitigation Branch Chief has been redirected to damage areas to assist in preliminary damage assessments with local officials and report back to SEMA.

Department of Health and Senior Services were notified as well as Missouri Department of Transportation to assist in debris removal. As additional counties are identified with damage, SEMA will dispatch teams to coordinate with local officials and assess damages.

Points of Contact: SEMA Emergency Operations Center phone number is 573/526-9100 or 573/751-2748.